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ABSTRACT

Investigation of the activity of extracts of the clam *Spisula polynyma* has led to antitumor long-chain, straight-chain alkane or alkene compounds which have a 2-amino group and a 3-hydroxy group. The present invention is directed to compositions and methods comprising an isolated and purified long-chain, straight-chain 2-amino-3-hydroxyalkane, or prodrug thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the carbon chain in the long-chain, straight-chain 2-amino-3-hydroxyalkane is C<sub>16</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>.